

Remarks

Claims 22, 25-28, and 30-39 are pending. Claim 29 has been canceled. Claim 22 has been amended.

§ 112 Rejections

Claim 29 was rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has cancelled claim 29 rendering the above rejection moot.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 22 and 25-29 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kovacs (US 6,206,517) in view of Akutsu et al. (GB 2 147 003).

Applicant notes that for purposes of examination, the Patent Office assumed that the system comprises the metal salts of claim 29 rather than the metal cations of claim 22. Akutsu et al. discloses zinc chloride.

Applicant has amended claim 22 by adding the contents of claim 29 into claim 22, except “zinc chloride”. Applicant mistakenly did not delete zinc chloride from claim 29 in their last response.

None of the now claimed salts in claim 22 salts are disclosed in Akutsu et al. (US 4,740,420/Counterpart to GB 2 147 003). The combination of references above does not teach or suggest the instantly claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the above rejection of claims 22 and 25-29 be withdrawn.

Claims 22, 25, 26, 28, and 29 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallace (US 4,889,765) in view of Akutsu et al.

Akutsu et al. has been discussed above. The combination of references above does not teach or suggest the instantly claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the above rejection of claims 22, 25-26, and 28 be withdrawn.

Claims 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kovacs in view of Akutsu et al., in further view of Hasegawa (US 4,954,395)

Akutsu et al. has been discussed above. Hasegawa adds nothing to the other references to supply their omissions. The combination of references above does not teach or suggest the instantly claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the above rejection of claims 30 and 31 be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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